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ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN RAILROADS
OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, April 8, 1982 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended April 3 totaled an estimated 16.7 billion ton-miles, 3.6 percent below the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today. The 1981 week marked the beginning of the lengthy United Mine Workers' strike. Both the 1982 and 1981 weeks included a one-day coal miners' holiday.

Cumulative volume for the first 14 weeks of 1982 was an estimated 225.1 billion ton-miles, 11.3 percent below the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended April 3 totaled 385,702 cars, 2.6 percent below 1981 and 2.1 percent lower than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 10.4 percent in the East due to the mine workers' strike in 1981, but down 4.5 percent in the South and 9.1 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1981, 18 of the 21 commodity groups were down. However, grain loadings were up 3,208 cars, or 13.1 percent. Eleven of the 21 groups increased from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended March 27 totaled 37,084 cars, up 10.0 percent from the corresponding week of 1981, and 60,328 trailers and/or containers, 1.6 percent lower than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first thirteen weeks of the year was 446,090 cars, 8.0 percent higher than last year, and 785,467 trailers and/or containers, up 5.0 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 4/3/82:

	Loadings in Week ended April 3, 1982		Change from Corresponding Week 1981			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	27,717	I	3,208	13.1	I	835	3.1
Other farm products	3,307	I	319	10.7	D	276	7.7
Metallic ores	20,700	D	7,934	27.7	I	827	4.2
Coal	114,327	I	43,948	62.4	D	8,624	7.0
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	9,517	D	3,395	26.3	I	86	0.9
Nonmetallic minerals	10,436	D	3,360	24.4	D	317	2.9
Grain mill products	12,558	D	2,320	15.6	D	26	0.2
Food and kindred products	13,908	D	1,610	10.4	D	443	3.1
Primary forest products	15,505	D	3,049	16.4	D	334	2.1
Lumber and wood products except furniture	6,393	D	2,934	36.3	I	18	0.3
Pulp, paper and allied products	17,590	D	3,221	15.5	D	219	1.2
Chemicals and allied products	24,258	D	5,227	17.7	D	2	0.0
Petroleum products	4,731	D	198	4.0	I	79	1.7
Stone, clay and glass products	10,623	D	4,204	28.4	I	91	0.9
Coke	5,360	D	1,055	16.4	I	64	1.2
Metals and products	12,033	D	6,424	34.8	I	306	2.6
Motor vehicles and equipment	15,611	D	3,450	18.1	I	344	2.3
Waste and scrap materials	8,586	D	4,630	35.0	D	231	2.6
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	9,776	D	965	9.0	I	270	2.8
All other carloads	42,558	D	3,604	7.8	D	527	1.2
LCL traffic	208	D	52	20.0	I	4	2.0
Total Cars Loaded	385,702	D	10,157	2.6	D	8,075	2.1
Corresponding week of 1981	395,859						

	1982	1981	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (14 weeks)	5,214,261	6,013,912	D 13.3
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
13 Weeks cumulative	208.5	236.6	D 11.9
Week ended April 3	16.7	17.3	D 3.6
14 Weeks cumulative	225.1	253.9	D 11.3

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